

which excited high praise from all persons most competent to judge of its merits, I asked him how he could find time for such research as the article showed. "I have always been interested in the subject," he replied, "and when this Brownsville row started in the Senate I knew it would be a long and possibly irritating business if I followed it; so I shut myself up, paid no heed to the row and wrote the article."

For "William Jennings Bryan personally, Roosevelt always had a kindly feeling while abhorring his political opinions. When Mr. Bryan returned from his tour of the world in 1906 and made what was predicted would be the "greatest speech of his life" in Madison Square Garden, New York, the President wrote to Whitelaw Reid in London, on September 25, a brief and accurate account of the fiasco which occurred:

"Poor Bryan! I do not know whether I feel more irritated or sympathetic with him. I never saw a bubble pricked so quickly. No private citizen in my time, neither General Grant nor Mr. Blaine, for instance, has been received with such wild enthusiasm on his return from a foreign trip; and in twenty-four hours he made his speech and became an object of indignation and laughter. He has retained his good nature and kindness; but he has still further lost credit since he made his speech and found out that his panacea of government ownership was unpopular, by attempting to crawl on it, and thereby has added

an appearance of insincerity to an appearance
of folly and
recklessness."

The President's own views on government
ownership
were set forth in a speech which he made at
the dedication
of the new State Capitol Building at
Harrisburg, Pa., on
October 4, 1906: " To exercise a constantly
increasing and
constantly more efficient supervision and
control over the
great common carriers of the country
prevents all neces-
sity for seriously considering such a project as
the govern-